Sir, if any further Account of the above will be acceptable to you, or the *Royal Society*, if you pleaſe to command I will wait on you. There are Alterations in my Machine I think for the better; and ſome new Experiments too long to write, fearing it would be too troubleſome; from

Your humble and obedient Servant,

R. Roche.

X. *A Letter from* John Huxham *M. D. F. R. S. to* C. Mortimer *Secr. R. S. concerning a* Child *born with an* extraordinary Tumour *near the* Anus, *containing ſome Rudiments of an Embryo in it.*

Dear Sir,

Read May 19. 1748. THE following Caſe was lately communicated to me by Mr. *Alexander Wills*, an experienced and ingenious Surgeon and Man-Midwife, of *Kingsbridge*. It ſeems to have ſomething particular and remarkable. If you think ſo (on Peruſal) you may be ſo good as to lay it before the *Royal Society*. I am,

SIR,

Plimouth, Dec. 12. 1746.

Your much obliged, and moſt obedient humble Servant,

J. Huxham.

" *John Perrine's* Wife, of *Charleton* Pariſh, in " this County, a briſk active young Woman (he " very infirm and conſumptive) was deliver'd of a " Daughter at full Time, *July* 11, 1746. The " Child was perfect, as to all its Limbs, Head, " Body, *&c.* but from the Region over the *Os* " *ſacrum, Glutæi* Muſcles, and between the Thighs, " quite home to the *Pudendum,* was growing a " very large Subſtance, which the Midwife and " others call'd a Wen, in Shape very like the Ventricle of a Sheep, and ſeem'd, as to its Colour " and outward Appearance, a Continuation of the " ſame Skin with the reſt of the Body, but very " full of Blood-veſſels. It hung down behind below the Heels, and was bigger than the whole " Body of the Child itſelf. It felt very ſoft, and " ſeem'd to have Matter fluctuate in it; but in the " middle of the Whole was evidently felt a hard " Subſtance.

" The *Pudendum* as well as *Anus* were in all reſpects natural, and both Urine and Stool were regularly diſcharg'd; but the *Anus* was placed much " more forward, and immediately under the *Pudendum*; ſo that the *Fæces* were diſcharged in " the ſame Direction with that of the Urine.

" I made a Puncture in the depending Part of " the Tumour, and drew off near two Quarts of a " paliſh red Water, without any Smell. The Oriſice being left open, there was a continual Iſſue " of the ſame kind of Water for ſeveral Days; but " by degrees it became more and more glutinous, " and at length whitiſh like *Pus,* and very fetid. As

" the

" the Diſcharge was great, the Child grew weaker
" and weaker, and at the End of 15 Days died.

" The next Day I open'd the Tumour, and found,
" near the *Os Coccygis*, an Abſceſs within a Cyſtis,
" in which were four Ounces at leaſt of white
" *Pus* prodigiouſly ſtinking; and, on further Exa-
" mination, found ſeveral cartilaginous Joints, as it
" were, ſomewhat reſembling the Tail of a Sheep,
" continued from the Point of the *Os Coccygis*.
" Theſe were about two Inches long, and invelop'd
" with a kind of fleſhy Subſtance cover'd with a
" ſort of Fat: Theſe, when cut thro', appear'd ex-
" actly like the inner Part of Lamb-Stones. From
" thoſe depended a Subſtance like the Head and Neck
" of an Embryo, as big as a large Egg, which, on
" opening, contained ſomewhat reſembling Brain,
" and a kind of a *Cerebellum* in the back Part:
" It had a Mouth and Tongue on one Side of the
" Face (if it might be ſo call'd) but no Appear-
" ance of Eyes or Noſe; however there was an
" Ear pretty evident.

" In the large Tumour there hung a kind of
" looſe Membrane, which perhaps might be Part
" of a Secundine.